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Entry
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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pushing, electric motor-operated wheelchair, a frame provided with a seat for a patient, at least one wheel journaled by said frame and driven by an electric motor carried by said frame, a bar handle extending upward from a rearward portion of said frame and having a cross piece of a double member structure consisting of a fixed member attached to and extending transversely across said frame and an external member disposed along at least a substantial portion of the length of an upper side portion of said fixed member and supported for limited movement relative thereto and to which an assistant applies a force to move said wheelchair; a detecting means interposed between said fixed member and said external member to detect control information based on an external force applied by the assistant to said external member to move said wheelchair, and a control for controlling said electric motor to produce assisting power commensurate with the control information detected by said detecting means.

2. (Previously Amended) A pushing, electric motor-operated wheelchair according to claim 1, wherein the detecting means detects relative displacement between the fixed member and the external member, and the control controls the electric motor to produce assisting power commensurate with the detected displacement.

3. (Previously Amended) A pushing, electric motor-operated wheelchair according to claim 2, wherein the displacement detecting means is disposed in the center, with respect to the wheelchair width, of at least one of the fixed member and the external member, and guides are provided on right and left sides of said displacement detecting means to restrict up and down movements and to permit forward and reverse movements of said external member relative to said fixed member.

4. (Previously Amended) A pushing, electric motor-operated wheelchair according to claim 2 wherein the displacement detecting means is disposed in the center, with respect to the wheelchair width, of at least one of the fixed member and the external member, and grip members are provided on right and left sides of said external member.

5. (Previously Amended) A pushing, electric motor-operated wheelchair according to claim 4, wherein the right and left grip members are positioned symmetrically apart from the longitudinal centerline of the wheelchair and sloping obliquely up inward to the center in the wheelchair width direction from right and left ends.